

Please maintain or increase the current minimum altitude, eliminate exemptions from the altitude rule, and give our state and National Park Service the ability to restrict tour overflights from state and national parks and wilderness areas.

The most important way that helicopters intrude on life here on Kauai is their incessant noise. While I understand and agree that helicopter tours are an excellent way to view our beautiful island, you cannot imagine how much those tours negatively impact us when we are trying to enjoy our natural resources on the ground. My family is lucky enough to go to Lumahai beach on Kauai's north shore at least once a week. Almost every single time we are there, there are helicopter tours pushing the envelope on how low they can go to show their customers this famous beach. But its not just noise issues.

I understand that government studies have demonstrated that the higher minimum altitude saves lives; and especially for our wildlife and park areas- Hawaii's forest birds are negatively affected by overflight disruptions, from mating problems to abandonment of nests;

In short, state and National Park Service should have the ability to restrict or ban air tour flights over sensitive areas. And there is no reason that helicopters have to be lower than 1000 feet anywhere they fly for tourism purposes especially.

Mahalo for your consideration,
Johanna Gomez